



**Indiana
Department
of
Health**

Drug Overdose Prevention Newscast

Oct 18, 2022

Updates

Successful Initiatives in Scott County

In January, a Scott County-based not-for-profit organization placed Indiana's first free naloxone vending machine outside of Clark Memorial Hospital. Since its inception, the vending machine has delivered approximately 3,300 naloxone kits. An additional vending machine was installed outside of the emergency department at another nearby hospital, Scott Memorial Health, and it has given out nearly 650 Narcan doses between June and September.

Members of Indiana's recovery community are pleased to see these successful initiatives in Scott County. The findings are timely, as the Indiana Behavioral Health Commission recently released a comprehensive report on the state of mental health in Indiana. The report reveals dire statistics: about 20% of Hoosiers experience a mental health condition each year, but less than half get the help they need. This is significant because poor mental health and substance use are often connected. As Brandon George, Director of Indiana Addiction Issues Coalition with Mental Health America of Indiana notes, "The majority of people have co-occurring disorders, they have mental health and substance use concerns."

Clark County Health Officer Eric Yazel says the report is groundbreaking. "I really think Clark County is well-positioned to integrate exactly what's in that report", he says. The combination of equipping individuals with Narcan and the recent expansion of the 988 mental health crisis hotline are pivotal resources for sustainable change in Indiana. Yazel acknowledges that providing people with Narcan is the first step, and the ongoing challenge is expanding mental health care access.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#) to check out updates on Scott County initiatives.

Beyond Substance Podcast

The Marion County Public Health Department (MCPHD) has released its second episode of their "Beyond Substance" podcast. This month's episode is part one of a series called "On the Front Line", and it focuses on members of the Indianapolis community who work at the forefront of substance use. MCPHD interviews a community paramedic, a crisis specialist from the Sandra Eskenazi Mental Health Center, and a representative from Indiana Recovery Network.

[CLICK THIS LINK](#) to tune in to the podcast.



Upcoming Events

Motivational Interviewing: Technical Skills

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. CDT, Oct. 19

Hosted by: Great Lakes MHTTC

Motivational interviewing is an evidence-based practice that helps people overcome their hesitancy to change. In this interactive workshop, participants will learn about motivational interviewing and how it apply it relationally and technically. The session will be led by Laura Saunders, MSSW, who is the Wisconsin State Project Manager for the Great Lakes Addiction, Mental Health, and Prevention Technology Transfer Centers. Find out more about this event [here](#).

Rapport Building and Validation: Cultural Considerations, Including Neurodiversity & Gender Diversity

11 a.m. – 1 p.m. PT, Oct. 21

Hosted by: Northwest MHTTC

Building rapport is an important step in providing effective mental health services, especially among individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs). This training will equip participants with practices for building lasting rapport among individuals with IDDs. The conversation will be led by neurodevelopment specialists and individuals with lived experience. Find out more about this event [here](#).

On-the-Spot: Virtual Recovery Services

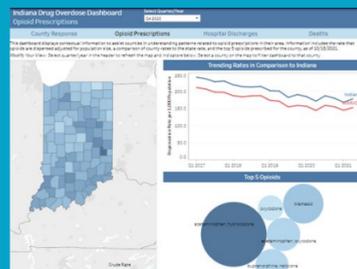
10 a.m. – 11 a.m. MT, Oct. 21

Hosted by: Mountain Plains ATTC

Telehealth services for SUD treatment have grown throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Many experts predict that recovery services will continue to be offered in virtual and hybrid formats. In this training, participants will learn telehealth best practices. Find out more about this event [here](#).

Indiana Drug Overdose Dashboard

Please visit the [Indiana Drug Overdose Dashboard](#), where you will find data from 2017 up to provisional data for 2021. In this dashboard, you will find data regarding opioid prescriptions, hospital discharges, and drug-related deaths. You can use this dashboard to explore overdose data at the county and state levels.



To **promote**, **protect**, and **improve** the health and safety of all Hoosiers

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